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**CIVIL WAR DIARY OF JOHN D. MYERS,
OF GOSHEN, INDIANA
SERGEANT IN CO. J, 74TH INDIANA INFANTRY**

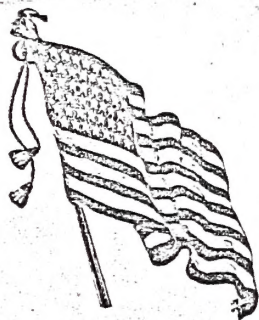
**[Owned in the 1960s by Marshall Howenstein,
807 Elm St., West Lafayette, IN]**

**Copied in the 1960s for the collection of the
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This is the complete diary of
John D. Myers, rewritten by him
sometime after the war between the
states ended.

*Property of
W. C. Harvencus
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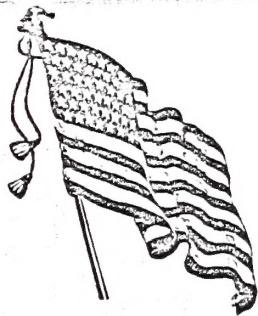


Diary of John D. Myers.
Co. F 74th Ind. Vol. Inf.
In camp at Ringold Georgia
We have laid in camp
for two months the town is
about 2000 inhabitants located
24 miles from Chattanooga
on the Chattanooga and
Atlanta Railroad.
"May 10" Received orders to march
We marched to Millcreek gap
14 miles within 1 mile of
Dalton which is a place
of 4000 inhabitants on
the Atlanta Railroad.
Here was heavy fighting
May 11th Third Brigade was
detailed train guards



and started with the train in the direction of Villanow 12 Marched to Villanow which is a small country town 13 laid in camp 14 Marched through Snake Creek gap which is 4 miles long, 15 Rest of Brigade was relieved from train guard 74. Ind. retained and marched within 3 miles of Resaca where there was heavy fighting in progress.

16 Guarded the supply train back to Dalton for rations 17 Returned to Resaca the enemy evacuated the town during the night it is a place of

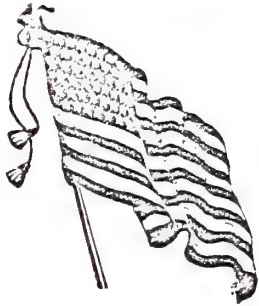


4000 inhabitants here we captured
some prisoners and artillery
18th Was relieved from train
guard and started in pursuit
of the rebel army passing thro-
ugh Calhoun a small town.
19th Marched to Adairville and
went in camp. 20th Marched to
Kingston 14 miles was some
fighting went in camp.
21st Marched to Bassville where
the rebels had breast works
and prepared to fight but during
the night the enemy evacuated
their works and left us master
of the situation Bassville
is a small town with a female
Seminary.



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22 Laid in camp visited
the 30th Ind. went over the
town and through the semina-
ry. 23rd Received orders to march
Third Brigade was assigned train
guards marched to Burnt Hickory.
The enemy made a stand
here and there was hard
fighting. 24th Laid in camp
hard fighting in front
25th Laid in camp hard fighting
26th Laid in camp hard fighting
27th Laid in camp heard fighting
28th marched to Dallas 10 miles
hard fighting at New Hope, G.H.
29th marched back to Burnt Hickory
hard fighting in front.
30th Laid in camp hard fighting



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31 Laid in camp hard fighting
June 1" Was relieved from train
guard and marched to the
front where there was hard
fighting. 2" Relieved the
first Division com. I went
on the skirmish line heavy
fighting all day. built a line
of breast works at New Hope C. H.
3" Advanced and drove the
enemy 1 mile and built works
4" Laid behind our works hard
fighting all day lost 3 men
wounded 5" laid behind our
works till noon when the
enemy was defeated ^{7 men wounded} 3 men killed
6 Went in camp at New Hope
C. H. 7" Marched 10 miles to



- Dallas went in camp
8" Laid in camp washing
and cleaning up generally
9 Laid in camp.
10" Marched to - Lost Mountain
here commenced fighting when
Gen Polk was killed
11" Advanced 1 mile hard
fighting 12 Laid in camp
hard fighting 13" Moved to
the left 1 mile hard fighting
14" Advanced 2 miles hard
fighting our Reg lost 6 men
15" Advanced 2 miles our Reg
lost 2 men wounded hard fighting
16" Hard fighting all along the
line 17 Built breast works hard
fighting



June 18th Advanced and drove the enemy hard fighting all day

June 19th The enemy evacuated their works during the night and retreated to Marietta

June 20th Advanced to Kenesaw M. I. lost 1 man John Freeland of Com. I. wounded hard fighting

June 21st Advanced 1 mile built works hard fighting 22 Laid behind our works hard fighting

June 23rd Laid behind our works hard fighting June 24th Laid behind works hard fighting lost 3 men

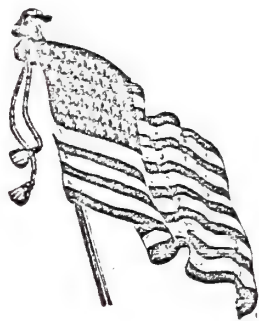
wounded June 25th Laid behind our works hard fighting June 26th Laid in camp behind our works.

hard fighting lost 6 men wounded



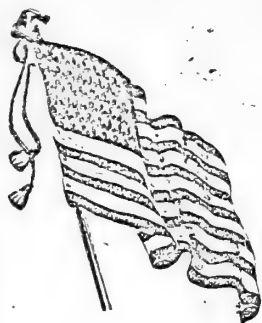
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June 27 "marched 4 miles to the right to support Jefferson & Davis who assaulted the enemys works and was defeated with heavy loss
June 28 "Advanced half mile drove the enemy lost 6 men wounded and built works hard fighting.
29 Laid in camp buried the dead under flag of truce some fighting
June 30 "Laid behind our works hard fighting.
July 1 Advanced 1 mile built works hard fighting lost 1 man wounded
July 2 "Laid behind our works hard fighting
July 3 The enemy evacuated their works during the night and we pursued them passing through



9

Marietta a nice town of 5000 inhabitants went in camp close to the enemy and built works July 4th Had orders to charge the enemy in their works but was countermanded hard fighting July 5th Enemy evacuated during the night the 7th and went on the skirmish line and pursued the enemy 5 miles to the Chattahoochee River. hard fighting July 6th Laid in camp some fighting built works July 7th Laid in camp some fighting at Paces H. Q. on the Chattahoochee River July 8th Com I went on picket 1 mile up the River at a grist mill while here went out



in the woods and found 2 union soldiers hanging to a limb of a tree where the rebels had hung them ^{the} during winter

July 9th Advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ mile hard fighting lost 6 men wounded

July 10th The enemy retreated across the Chattahoochee River

July 11th Laid in camp

July 12th Laid in camp

July 13th Laid in camp

July 14th Laid in camp

July 15th Laid in camp

July 16th Laid in camp

July 17th Crossed the Chattahoochee River at Paces F. Y. some fighting

July 18th Moved to Vaneys Creek hard fighting



July 19th Marched to Peachtree creek
and crossed over to south side
hard fighting

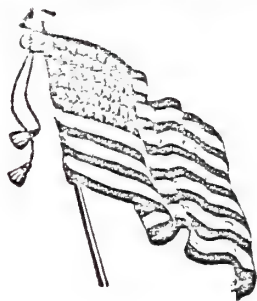
July 20th Built works on top of a hill
to our left they fought a heavy
battle the enemy being defeated
with heavy loss. July 21st Advanced
and drove the enemy in their
works hard fighting lost 1 man
July 22nd Enemy retreated to their
works close to Atlanta we followed
in close pursuit found them in
strong works. 15th and 14th corps fought
a hard battle on the east side of
Atlanta defeated the enemy with
heavy loss July 23rd Built works
on the west side of Atlanta
 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of railroad



July 24th Laid behind our works
hard fighting 2 miles to City
11th Field Battery commenced shelling
city with 22 pound Parrot guns
July 25th Hard fighting all along the
line enemy throwing 64 lbs.
shell in our camp.

July 26th Laid in camp hard
fighting July 27th Laid in camp
enemy advanced and drove in
our skirmishers July 28th 15th and 16th
corps withdrew from the left and
passed to our right and was
met by the enemy and fought
a severe battle in which the
enemy was defeated. .

July 29th laid in camp hard
fighting



July 30th Laid in camp enemy shelled us from fort.

July 31st Laid in camp with usual fighting and shelling.

Aug 1st Laid in camp skirmishing

Aug 2nd Laid in camp hard fighting

Aug 3rd 14 Corps moved 5 miles to the right hard fighting

Aug 4th Built works had orders to charge the enemys works but the order was countermanded.

Aug 5th Advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ mile built works hard fighting lost 3 men wounded and Miron Baker killed.

Aug 6th Laid behind our works hard fighting Aug 7th Was ordered to charge enemys works but was defeated

lost 4 men wounded and Lt. C. Beane ^{wounded}



Aug 8 "Laid behind our works
at Utoy brick hard fighting.

Aug 9 "Laid behind our works hard
fighting

Aug 10 "Laid behind our works

Aug 11 "Laid behind our works.

Aug 12 "Laid behind our works.

Aug 13 "Laid behind our works
hard fighting lost David woger
man killed

Aug 14 "Laid behind our works
hard fighting 1 man wounded

Aug 15 "Laid in camp hard fighting

Aug 16 "Laid in camp

Aug 18 "Laid in camp.

Aug 19 "Laid in camp till noon
when we moved 1 mile to the
right to support the 23 corps

Aug 20 "Laid in camp



Aug 21 Laid in camp some
skirmish fighting

Aug 22 " Laid in camp

Aug 23 " Laid in camp behind
our works Artillery fighting

Aug 24 " Laid behind our works
heavy skirmishing all day

Aug 25 " Laid in camp and skirmished

Aug 26 " Laid in camp canonading

Aug 27 " Received marching orders
and started south in the

evening marched all night

Aug 28 " Marched till noon when
we came to Red Oak Station on
the West Point railroad and
tore the road up

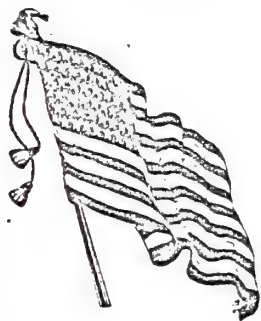
Aug 29 " Laid in camp

Aug 30 " Marched in the direction



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of Macon railroad some fighting Aug 31st Marched to the railroad close to Jonesborough enemy charged on 15th and 16th boys but was defeated with heavy loss estimated 5000 killed and wounded Sept 1st. Marched in the direction of Jonesborough taking the right hand side of the railroad leading south we came in sight of the enemy's works we were formed in line of battle and charged and captured them with a 4 gun battery 650 prisoners and 1000 muskets Our loss was 20 killed 58 wounded The charge ocured at 5 P.M. and lasted 30 minutes



Sept 2nd Buried the dead took care of the wounded remained in Jonesborough. The enemy evacuated Atlanta last night. Sept 3rd laid in camp hard fighting 4 miles in front at Lovejoy Station. Sept 4th laid in camp at Jonesborough fighting in front. Sept 5th laid in camp heavy cannonading at Lovejoy. Sept 6th commenced falling back to Jonesborough some fighting. Sept 7th marched back to Atlanta. Sept 8th went in camp on the South East side of the city. Sept 9th went to the city. Sept 10 visited the enemy's breast works and forts on



the west side of town.

Sept 11 laid in camp.

Sept 12 went to the city.

Sept 13 "went over close to Dreator where the battle of 22nd of July was fought. Sept 14 and 15 laid in camp. Sept 16 "visited the railroad where the enemy burnt 100 cars of Ordinance stores that was left in the city when they retreated.

Sept 17 "laid in camp.

Sept 18 laid in camp.

Sept 19 "visited the city

Sept 20 "laid in camp

Sept 21 "and 22 "laid in camp

Sept 23 "was down to the city

Sept 24 "and 25 laid in camp

Oct 10 received marching orders marched to Bushy Hickory
Oct 11 marched to Bartersville 20 miles passed Allatoona where the enemy tried to take the place but failed with heavy loss.

Oct 12 marched to Kingston 14 miles where we got dinner then marched to Rome 14 miles

Oct 13 laid in camp until night then marched all night to Adairville 15 miles
Oct 14 marched to Basaca.

15 miles the enemy had burned the railroad

Oct 15 marched over the mountain at Snake creek

gap 15 miles Oct 16 marched down front of the mountain some fighting in Snake-creek-gap passed through

Sept 26 and 27 laid in camp
Sept 28 was over to the city
Sept 29 and 30 laid in camp
Oct 1 laid in camp. Rumored that the enemy was crossing the Chatahoochie river in our rear Oct 2 laid in camp. Oct 3 received orders to march and marched to the Chatahoochie railroad bridge, 18 miles to drive food from our railroad.

Oct 4 crossed over the Chatahoochie river and marched to Big Shanty 25 miles.
Oct 5 marched 8 miles.

Oct 6 laid in camp.

Oct 7 marched to Lost Mt. to reenviter and returned to our previous camp.

Oct 8 marched to Dallas

Oct 9 laid in camp.

Willamow marched 20 miles,
camped at Ship's gap.

Oct 17th laid in camp.

Oct 18th marched 24 miles passed
close to the Chickamauga
battlefield. Oct 19th marched 30 miles
went in camp at Summerville.

Oct 20th marched ~~20~~ ²² miles and went
in camp close to Galesville, ^{Ma.} ~~Ala.~~

Oct 21st laid in camp.

Oct 22nd went foraging.

Oct 23rd laid in camp.

Oct 24th and 25th laid in camp.

Oct 26th went out in the country
to get forage. Oct 27th and 28th laid
in camp. Oct 29th received orders
to march. marched 24 miles
to Rome Georgia, a place
of 4000 inhabitants.

Oct 30th and 31st laid in camp.

Nov 1st laid in camp. lost
3 men captured by Snickerilla

Nov 2nd marched 24 miles to
Kingston Georgia.

Nov 3rd laid in camp and
was paid off. Nov 4th and 5th laid
in camp close to town.

Nov 6th and 7th laid in camp.

Nov 8th election of Abraham
Lincoln. The 74th 2nd not having
a vote was sent out foraging.
20 miles north of town lost
9 men captured.

Nov 9th the 74th 2nd last night
at dark and marched all night
at daylight was 24 miles north
east of Kingston captured Capt
in Hendricks and 7 of his men
returned to camp after burning
three houses and a brush with
the Snickerillas

Nov 10th laid in camp.

Nov 11th laid in camp.

Nov 12th received orders to march

marched to Allatoona 20 miles
 Nov 13" marched to Big Shanty
 24 miles Nov 14 marched to the
 Chattahoochee river 26 miles
 Nov 15" marched to Atlanta
 20 miles on arriving there the
 city was on fire passed through
 the city and went in camp in
 our former camp
 Nov 16" marched 18 miles going
~~east~~ south east on the flat rock
 road Nov 17" marched 16 miles going
 close to Stone Mt.
 Nov 18" marched 14 miles passing
 through Covington.
 Nov 19" marched 18 miles.
 Nov 20 marched 20 miles
 Nov 21 marched 12 miles in a
 getting rain storm and deep
 mud, Nov 22" marched 14 miles
 Nov 23 marched 14 miles and
 went in camp in Milledgeville

Nov 24" the 74th Ind. was detailed
 on provost guard duty in
 Milledgeville with camp at State
 building, Nov 25" marched
 15 miles. Nov 26. marched 18 miles
 Nov 27 marched 20 miles
 Nov 28" marched 14 miles and
 camped at Louisville.
 Nov 29" laid in camp some
 fighting Nov 30" laid in camp
 some fighting.
 Dec 1" 3rd Brigade sent to support
 Kilpatrick some fighting.
 marched 14 miles
 Dec 2" marched 15 miles had
 a fight with Wheelers cavalry
 Dec 3" marched 18 miles
 Dec 4" 74th Ind. had a fight
 with Wheelers cavalry at
 Wainsborough Dec 5" marched
 20 miles and rejoined the
 corps.

Dec 6" marched 18 miles some
fighting Dec 7" marched 22 miles
Dec 8" marched 10 miles some
fighting Dec 9" heavy cannon
ading at Savana marched
14 miles. Dec 10" marched 10 miles
and come to a fort
Dec 11 marched 5 miles
skirmishing in the rear
Dec 12 laid in camp fighting
in front. Dec 13 marched
14 miles heavy fighting
Dec 14 laid in camp close
to Savannah hard fighting
Dec 15" laid in camp
Dec 16" laid in camp hard
fighting Dec 17" laid in camp
Dec 18" laid in camp hard
fighting all along the line.
the enemy has good works
6 three miles out.
Dec 19" laid in camp

Dec 20" making arrangements
to charge the enemies works.
Rations scarce living on rice.

Dec 21" the enemy evacuated
Savannah last night.

Dec 22" we marched in the
city of Savannah and took
possession it is a beautiful
place of 40,000 inhabitants

Dec 23" went in camp south of
town Dec 24 laid in camp and
visited the city Dec 25 comen-
ced building a shanty carried
lumber 1 mile got it at Fair-
ground. Dec 26" built shanty
Dec 27" went to city.

Dec 28" went to city.

Dec 29 went on picket.

Dec 30 laid in camp.

Dec 31 laid in camp.

Jan 1 ¹⁸⁴⁵ went to the city.

Jan 2" went to the city

Jan 3" went out on picket
Jan 4 laid in camp
Jan 5 was in the city when
a rebel boat came in loaded
with spices. Jan 6" went on
picket. Jan 7" laid in camp
Jan 8" was in the city.
Jan 9 and 10 laid in camp
Jan 11" and 12 laid in camp
Jan 13 went out on picket
Jan 14 went to the city.
Jan 15 was in the city.
Jan 16 was on picket.
Jan 17 laid in camp.
Jan 18 went on picket.
Jan 19 went to the city
Jan 20 received marching
orders marched 8 miles
back on the same road that
we came in on Jan 21" laid
in camp Jan 22" went on
picket Jan 23 and 24 laid
in camp

20
Jan 25 went on picket.

Jan 26 laid in camp.

Jan 27 marched 18 miles and
went in camp at Springfield

Jan 28" marched 20 miles and
went in camp at Sisters Ferry
on the Savannah river.

Jan 29" and 30 laid in camp

Jan 31 went on picket.

Feb 1" laid in camp but I crossed
the Savannah river and went over
in South Carolina.

Feb 2" and 3 laid in camp

Feb 4 laid in camp

Feb 5 crossed over the Savannah
river and marched 8 miles

Feb 6" laid in camp.

Feb 7 marched 5 miles.

Feb 8 marched 20 miles up the
Savannah river Feb 9" marched

22 miles Feb 10 marched 24 miles
and camped in Barnwell

29

Feb 11" marched 18 miles on the Augusta road some skirmishing
Feb 12" marched 22 miles and
tore up the railroad 15 miles
north of Augusta some hard
fighting. Feb 13" marched 15 miles
back to Blakeville destroyed the
railroad as we marched.

Feb 14" marched 18 miles on the
Columbia road. Feb 15 marched
18 miles on the water ferry road
Feb 16" marched 18 miles and went
in camp 6 miles west of Columbia

Feb 17 marched 16 miles and
crossed the Santee river

Feb 18" marched 12 miles and
crossed the Broad river

Feb 19. marched 14 miles and
tore up the Spartensburg
railroad. Feb 20 marched 15 miles

and went in camp at Monticello

Feb 21 marched 20 miles and

passed through Winnsborough
and tore up the railroad.

Feb 22 marched 18 miles and tore
up the railroad

Feb 23 marched 16 miles and
went in camp at the batoba
river Feb 24 laid in camp it
rained all day.

Feb 25 rained all day hard
fighting Feb 26 marched 5 miles
went in camp at river raining
Feb 27 laid in camp rained
all day Feb 28 crossed the
river hard rains and deep
mud. Some fighting

March 1 marched 22 miles and
camped close to a hanging
rock March 2 marched 15 miles

March 3 marched 20 miles and
passed close to Camden

March 4 marched 22 miles

March 5 marched 15 miles

came to the Pee Dee river
some fighting.

march 6" laid in camp

march 7 crossed the river and

marched 15 miles march 8"

marched 32 miles on the Fayette
ville road. march 9 marched

22 miles march 10 marched

8 miles some fighting

march 11" marched 16 miles

went in camp in Fayetteville

some hard fighting

march 12" laid in camp.

Fayetteville is a nice city of
30,000. The largest arsenal in
the south was located here.

Here the boys found a car load
of wine in the Depo. That had
been shipped from Charleston
for safety but the boys had to
sample it. march 13. laid in
camp and commenced tearing

down the arsenal buildings
March 14 laid in camp doing
guard duty March 15 laid in
camp. March 16 crossed over the
Cape Fear river and marched
14 miles March 17 marched 8 miles
in rain and mud. March 18
marched 8 miles had to bridge
all the way March 19 marched
12 miles fighting in front
March 20 marched 8 miles
hard fighting at Bentonville
2 miles in front. March 21
3rd Brigade detailed train
guards hard fighting at Benton-
ville March 22 Third Brigade
started to Kingston as guard
for the supply train March 23
marched 20 miles to Kingston
March 24 laid in camp
March 25 started back on our
return trip to Goldsborough

march 24th arrived in Goldsborough
and went in camp in edge of
town the town is 6000 inhabitants
march 27th and 28th laid in camp.
march 29 went out foraging
march 30 and 31 laid in camp
Apr 1st went on picket.
Apr 2nd and 3rd laid in camp
Apr 4 went down to the Neuse
river to see a fort built by
our men in the early part
of the war. Apr 5th a second N. C.
cavalryman was shot close
to our camp for some misde-
meanor. Apr 6th and 7th laid in
camp Apr 8th received news
that Grant had defeated
Lee. Apr 9th more good news
from Grant. Apr 10th received
marching orders marched
14 miles in the direction of
Raleigh Apr 11 marched

8 miles Bivouac in Smithfield
74 And being on the skirmish
line had hard fighting.

The enemy came in from
Raleigh under flag of truce
to surrender the city.

Apr 12" marched 12 miles hard
fighting went in camp at Sburn
Heard of Lees surrender.

Apr 13" marched 15 miles passing
through Raleigh some fighting

Apr 14" marched 16 miles
and went in camp at Holly
Springs. Received news of the
assassination of the President
Abraham Lincoln. By Booth.

Apr 15" marched 5 miles and went
in camp some fighting

Apr 16" marched 8 miles and went
in camp Apr 17 laid in camp

Apr 18" and 19" laid in camp

Apr 20" and 21 laid in camp

Apr 22nd and 23rd laid in camp
Apr 24th and 25th laid in camp
Apr 26th "rebel soldiers from
Lee's army passed through our
camp on their way home.

Grant came here to see about
the surrender. Apr 27th laid in
camp Johnston surrendered to
Sherman Apr 28th received orders
to march marched 15 miles
received news that peace was
declared. And we started on
our homeward journey.

Apr 29th marched 12 miles and
went in camp at Massey station.
Apr 30th marched 20 miles left the
railroad at Nelson station.

May 1st marched 30 miles crossed
Kens river and Tar river

May 2nd marched 24 miles passing
through Oxford and Williamsboro

May 3rd marched 18 miles crossed

Ronoke river passed through Boydton
May 4 marched 24 miles
May 5 marched 35 miles passing
by Lunenburg Court House and
Kottoway Court House.
May 6 " marched 35 miles and
crossed the Appomattox river.
May 7 " marched 32 miles and
went in camp at Manchester
May 8 " and 9 laid in camp.
May 10 " went over the James river
in Richmond was in Libby
prison and the Confederate
capitol May 11 " marched 24 miles
passing through Richmond
and went in camp at Hanover
Court house May 12 marched
15 miles and crossed the Pamunkey
river May 13 marched 22 miles
passing Fairfield station and Charles-
burg May 14 marched 22 miles
May 15 marched 20 miles

34

and crossed the Rapidann at
Raccoon ford. May 16" marched
18 miles and crossed the Rappahannoe
river and Rocky mountain run.
May 17" marched 20 miles crossed
cedar run and Kettle run went
in camp at bulpeper.
May 18 marched 24 miles passed
Manassas junction May 19" marched
15 miles crossed Bulls run and
went in camp at Fairfacks
Court House May 20" marched
10 miles and went in camp at
Alexandra. May 21 and 22 laid
in camp May 23 went down
to Alexandra May 24 marched
21 miles. Through Washington
and Georgetown passing in
grand review and went in
camp at our former camp
May 25" marched 20 miles passing
through Washington city

and going in camp on the north side of town.

May 26 and 27 laid in camp

May 28 "visited the city went through the capital

May 29 visited the city going through the patent office

May 30 "went to the navy yard

May 31 laid in camp.

June 1 "and 2 " laid in camp

June 3 was in the city

June 4 "and 5 " laid in camp

June 6 "and 7 laid in camp

June 8 was in the city

June 9 was mustered out of the

U. S. service. June 10 took the

B. & O. Railroad for Indianapolis

June 11 camped at Parkersburg

there took boat on the Ohio river

~~the~~ June 12 arrived at Cincinnati

June 13 arrived at Indianapolis

where we was discharged. J. D. Myers.

